Status of Projects from the Common Sense Initiative

Project	Description	Status[1]	Contact
Printing Subcommittee - This Subcommittee is continuing under the NACEPT Standing Committee on Sectors			
PrintSTEP (Printers' Simplified Total Environmental Partnership)	The goal of PrintSTEP is to help the printing industry and the public achieve cleaner, cheaper, and smarter environmental protection through the creation of a simpler regulatory "framework." PrintSTEP changes the process of implementing existing environmental emissions and the release standards for the printing industry. The PrintSTEP pilots are designed to test a variety of reinvention approaches that will help the regulatory system become more effective, transparent, and flexible. PrintSTEP should improve environmental performance, enhance efficiency, and simplify the regulatory process for the printing sector.	**ONGOING.** PrintSTEP is being implemented under EPA's NACEPT Standing Committee on Sectors. Pilot projects in three states will be conducted. A formal evaluation of the pilots will be designed to ensure adequate data for drawing conclusions. Four documents have been created to assist printers and regulators with the PrintSTEP program: *Guide to States*; *Printers' Plain Language Workbook; Community Handbook*; and *Evaluation Strategy*.	Gina Bushong OECA 202-564-2242 Bushong.Gina@epa.gov

[1] ***Ongoing*** -- research still underway within the NACEPT Sector workgroup or other non-FACA stakeholder effort; a formal recommendation *has not* been submitted to the Agency on the project (e.g., Printing PrintSTEP).
Under implementation -- an action recommendation has been submitted to the Agency and the project is being conducted with this recommendation as guidance (e.g., Metal Finishing Strategic Goals).
Being evaluated -- an action recommendation has been submitted to the Agency and the recommendation/project results are being evaluated for further action by the Agency (e.g., Computers and Electronics CURE).
Completed -- an action recommendation has been submitted to the Agency and no further action is anticipated on the recommendation/project results (e.g., Autos alternative regulatory system/community technical assistance); or the subcommittee completed the project without forwarding a formal recommendation to the Agency.

Project	Description	Status	Contact
New York City Education Project	The New York City Education Project's aim was to incorporate pollution prevention into the everyday work practices of small printers. The goal of the project was to engage communities into identifying local printing businesses and to provide printers with information on how to access pollution prevention technical assistance.	**COMPLETED.** The project's first educational tools is available: *The Environmental Compliance and Pollution Prevention Technical Assistance Directory* for Printers in New York City.	Stan Siegel EPA Region 2 212-637-3701 Siegel.Stan@epa.gov
Petroleum Refining Subcommittee - This subcommittee is continuing under the NACEPT Standing Committee on Sectors			
Refinery Air Information Reporting System (RAIRS) Project	The Refinery Air Information System (RAIRS) Project (formerly "One-Stop Reporting and Public Access Project") was initiated to identify and recommend modifications to existing air reporting requirements that are duplicate and/or obsolete. The project also addressed community needs for increased understanding of and access to environmental information. The goal of the project is to enhance utility of air emission reports by all regulators, the regulated industry, and the public.	**ONGOING.** A consolidated air emissions reporting system was completed in August 1998. The revised reporting system was tested at a pilot refinery, Marathon Oil Refinery, in Texas City, Texas, in September 1998. The purpose of the pilot was to compare the resource burden of existing reporting requirements with the revised system. Preliminary evaluation estimates indicate that the reporting burden was reduced by approximately 100 hours annually.	Craig Weeks EPA Region 6 214-665-7505 Weeks.Craig@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Equipment Leaks	The purpose of the Equipment Leaks Project is to identify alternatives to current leak detection and repair (LDAR) requirements at refineries to increase regulatory flexibility and cost effectiveness and reduce emissions. The Workgroup conducted a study of equipment leaks at 25 randomly selected refineries.	**UNDER IMPLEMENTED.** The "Public Data Collection and Analysis Task Final Report" was completed in February 1998 and concluded that there was not a defined universe of chronic leakers. Several technologies have been identified that have the potential to rapidly detect Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) emissions at refineries. The workgroup has field tested one such technology, a laser imagining system, including side-by side comparison testing with current LDAR methods, at a volunteer refinery in April 1999. The workgroup is coordinating with EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards and state air regulatory agencies to develop and implement alternative procedures to current LDAR requirements. The Agency is simultaneously moving forward with the regulatory and technology development to ensure that this technology will be able to be utilized when it becomes commercially available.	Steve Souders OSWER 703-308-8431 Souders.Steve@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Accidental Release Communication Project	The goal of the Refinery Accidental Release Information Communication Project was to improve the effectiveness of communication of accidental release information between refineries, the surrounding community, and other stakeholders, through work at a pilot refinery. The goal of the pilot project was to develop a model program for improving communications between refineries and communities that could be tailored to the needs of other communities and refineries.	**COMPLETED.** The kick-off meeting with Shell Oil in Norco, Louisiana, a pilot refinery, was held in October 1998. A local workgroup with representatives of the Norco community was formed and met periodically to discuss relevant issues. The workgroup developed a model communication plan in August 1999, and the project was completed in September 1999. The final report was presented at an industry-wide National Petrochemical and Refiners Association (NPRA) Environmental Conference in Dallas, TX, on September 27-28, 1999.	Craig Weeks EPA Region 6 214-665-7505 Weeks.Craig@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Iron and Steel Subcommittee			
Brownfields Redevelopment	The subcommittee developed Guiding Principles for Brownfields redevelopment. The Guiding Principles represent a threshold set of goals that could be applied in a broad sense to any Brownfields strategy. The Subcommittee also created a model statute for creating a community redevelopment authority.	**ONGOING.** The Guiding Principles and Redevelopment Authority are being piloted in Northwest, Indiana and Birmingham, Alabama. The pilot sites are being evaluated to assess if the guiding principles are being implemented and, if so, how well.	Barbara Bassuener OSWER 202-260-9347 Bassuener.Barbara@epa.gov Edwin (Ted) Smith EPA Region 5 312-353-6571 Smith.Edwin@epa.gov
Consolidated Multi-Media Reporting	The subcommittee identified State/EPA permit information that can be consolidated into electronically submitted reporting for a steel minimill. This consolidated report can potentially reduce duplication, minimize errors, yield substantial cost savings for industries and regulators and provide affected communities with usable environmental information. The project was integrated into Utah's "One Stop" reporting initiative.	**COMPLETED.** The project was a success. The state of Utah and Nucor Steel Company, the participating steel plant, developed a form to be used electronically to report data to the state of Utah. Utah was to use the results of the project as preliminary work in development of its state-wide, consolidated electronic format.	Judy Hecht OW 202-260-5682 Hecht.Judy@epa.gov
Iron and Steel Web Site	In order to make the iron and steel industry aware of environmental technologies that may help them comply with or go beyond compliance with environmental standards, the subcommittee considered developing a Web site to provide the industry, regulators, and environmental and community groups with important environmental technology and information.	**COMPLETED.** This project is complete. The Web site is not going to be developed.	George Jett OW 202-260-7151 Jett.George@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Promoting Innovative Technology	The subcommittee found that there are barriers that can prevent testing or even adopting innovative technology. For example, the regulatory definition of solid waste may be adversely impacting metals recycling and the introduction of new technologies. This was the focus of a pilot conducted by the subcommittee, but the subcommittee did not reach consensus on whether the definition of solid waste is indeed a constraint.	**COMPLETED.** The Regulatory Barriers Pilot project resulted in specific findings and recommendations about how EPA can involve stakeholders in policy and regulatory development. As a result of the recommendations, EPA will be requiring regulatory managers to develop a discrete section in their work plans for significant rules on how the public will be involved throughout all stages of regulatory development.	Judy Hecht OW 202-260-5682 Hecht.Judy@epa.gov
Spent Pickle Liquor Workshop	The subcommittee and the Environmental Law Institute convened a workshop in December 1996 to discuss the use of acid for steel pickleing and the subsequent generation of spent pickle liquor in the surface cleaning of steel products during production. Acid pickling produces spent pickle liquor, which is considered a hazardous waste because it contains lead, nickel, and hexavalent chromium. Other topics discussed during the workshop included current and potential management alternatives for its reduction; recycling, reuse, and/or disposal options; and differences in the interpretations of state and federal regulations.	**COMPLETED.**	Craig Butler Ohio EPA 614-728-1261

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Multi-Media Permitting for Mini Mills	The subcommittee developed a pseudo, non-enforceable, multi-media permit for steel mini-mills. The multi-media permit includes air, water, and waste and includes a pollution prevention plan. The subcommittee also analyzed the potential statutory and regulatory barriers to multi-media permitting	**COMPLETED.**	Judy Hecht OW 202-260-5682 Hecht.Judy@epa.gov
General Permitting Issues	The subcommittee conducted an examination of general permitting issues. Specific interests to industry, regulators, and environmentalists including public participation in the process were addressed. A package of 12 permit issues and recommendations was developed to improve the permitting process in all mediums.	**UNDER IMPLEMENTATION.** Eight of the recommendations submitted to the EPA are being considered within EPA's general permit reform efforts. Two of the recommendations support activities already underway. As a result of the remaining two recommendations, EPA will be developing consolidated guidance on witnessing certain air testing, and a direct final rule amending the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) to allow daily observations of visible emissions from electric arc furnace shops went into effect May 3, 1999.	Judy Hecht OW 202-260-5682 Hecht.Judy@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Using Supplemental Environmental Projects	The subcommittee worked with EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance to identify ways to creatively use Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs) to support community development, facilitate additional Brownfields cleanup, increase public participation in the use of SEPs, and improve compliance.	**COMPLETED.** OECA is completing an "Action Plan for Innovation" to implement the recommendations of the Innovations Task Force. The draft report states, that OECA will "Involve Communities in the Development of Supplemental Environmental Projects." The enforcement and compliance assurance programs currently have a workgroup effort underway to develop guidance for establishing a process for involving communities early in the settlement of an enforcement action so they can provide meaningful input on Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs). OECA will issue the guidance by March 20000. The same report states that OECA will, "Publicize Innovative SEPS...for example innovative projects to prevent pollution, encourage citizen monitoring and provide training and technical support to the regulated community." OECA will develop a bulletin by February 1, 2000.	Robert Tolpa OECA 202-564-2337 Tolpa.Robert@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Community Advisory Committee	The subcommittee developed a set of Guiding Principles for developing working relationships between an industrial facility and its surrounding community. It is testing the Guiding Principles at a pilot citizen's advisory committee at Bethlehem Steel's Burns Harbor facility.	**ONGOING.** The Bethlehem Steel Burns Harbor Plant is the first integrated steel mill to voluntarily establish a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). The Bethlehem CAC includes area residents, representatives of environmental groups, the educational community, federal, state, and local government officials (including the EPA and National Park Service), and Bethlehem Steel union and management officials. The group has met regularly since November 1996 to advise Bethlehem regarding the improvement of its environmental performance. The CAC has tackled several complex environmental issues including noise, truck traffic, and expediting RCRA corrective action for a former sludge dumping ground so that the area may be reused for wildlife habitat and recreational purposes. EPA awarded a grant to the Bethlehem CAC. The grant identified three key objectives: 1) to evaluate portions of land for possible use as a wildlife habitat and recreation; 2) to develop a formal outreach and education plan; and 3) to investigate innovative environmental performance measures to assess Bethlehem's environmental performance.	Mary Fulghum 312-886-4683 EPA Region 5 Fulghum.Mary@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Iron and Steel Liaison	The subcommittee proposed that all stakeholders including industry, environmental groups, states, and communities, would benefit from having access to an EPA iron and steel liaison.	**UNDER IMPLEMENTATION.** Region 5 (Chicago, Illinois) established a pilot liaison to test the regional liaison concept, and EPA has established a pilot national liaison in Washington, DC. The liaisons act as contact points, and they address problems, concerns, and issues regarding the iron and steel industry. Evaluations of the liaison programs have been completed, and they are located on the Sectors Web site at www.epa.gov/sectors.	Ed Wojciechowski 312-886-6785 EPA Region 5 Wojciechowski.Edward@epa.gov Bill Sonntag OPR 202-260-0633 Sonntag.William@epa.gov
Environmental Performance	The subcommittee looked at developing a stakeholder code of conduct to further environmental protection by mutual adherence to a set of principles. The subcommittee also considered a concept of substantial compliance, which would possibly help establish intermediary compliance goals within the sector and recognize better environmental performers striving toward full compliance.	**COMPLETED.** Although a lot of work was accomplished on these two efforts, the group was unable to reach agreements on either project.	Judy Hecht OW 202-260-5682 Hecht.Judy@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Metal Finishing Subcommittee - This subcommittee is continuing under the NACEPT Standing Committee on Sectors			
The Strategic Goals Program (SGP)	The National Metal Finishing Strategic Goals Program (SGP) consists of voluntary, "better than compliance" national performance targets for metal finishing facilities, as well as compliance and achievement goals for the industry as a whole. The voluntary beyond compliance performance targets for participating SGP facilities are for the year 2002.	**UNDER IMPLEMENTATION.** As of October 1999, the SGP had over 300 companies, 18 states, and 50 POTWs participating in this sector-wide effort to achieve cleaner, cheaper, smarter results by the metal finishing industry. Many EPA programs and all 10 Regions also are playing key roles in the implementation of the SGP. Starting in January 1998, EPA and its stakeholder partners have begun establishing SGP operations in locations nationwide, including developing program policies, holding workshops, providing outreach and marketing materials, and creating infrastructure to manage and analyze facility information. Regional implementation is underway in over nine locations. EPA and other stakeholders also are pursuing national commitments made as part of the program. Recent milestones include a proposed RCRA rule change to extend (to 180 days) the accumulation requirement for F006 metal finishing waste, and changes to the pretreatment program to enable POTWs to offer greater flexibility for facilities. For more information visit the Web site at www.strategicgoals.org.	Bob Benson OPR 202-260-8668 Benson.Robert@epa.gov Mindy Gampel OPR 202-260-2748 Gampel.Mindy@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Compliance Leadership through Enforcement, Auditing, and Negotiation (CLEAN)	This New England based project combined pollution prevention assistance and enforcement relief policies as incentives for improved environmental performance by metal finishers. To implement Region 1's CLEAN initiative, the states established multi-disciplinary technical assistance teams to conduct facility-wide, multi-media, Pollution Prevention (P2) assessments at small and medium sized metal finishing companies located in Maine and New Hampshire. The teams provided environmental compliance assistance and enforcement relief for facilities that fully participated in the project.	**COMPLETED.** The Clean P2 pilot ended in 1998. Now enforcement determinations and referral to P2 technical assistance providers are a routine aspect of regional and state compliance assurance efforts. These activities are implemented by a newly created Small Business Team which utilizes the EPA's Policy on Compliance Incentives for Small Businesses.	Larry Wells EPA Region 1 617-918-1836 Wells.Larry@epa.gov
Regulatory Information Inventory Team Evaluation (RIITE) Program	The RIITE project team applied business process reengineering techniques to examine federal, state, and local reporting requirements for metal finishers across all environmental media. The team explored ways to reduce paperwork burden, improve public access to data, and promote better environmental performance.	**COMPLETED.** The results of regional pilot projects in Arizona and Texas have been used to develop national and state-specific policy recommendations to reengineer existing reporting requirements. A RIITE "toolkit" was developed to assist interested states in applying the reengineering process and in using available tools for reporting reform. RIITE also has contributed to the Agency's overall efforts to reinvent environmental information, providing "One-Stop" states (for example) with important tools for their individual reform efforts.	Matthew Leopard OPR 202-260-2468 Leopard.Matthew@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Metal Finishing 2000 Flexible Track Projects	The subcommittee endorsed the concept of an alternative performance "flexible track" for top performing metal finishing facilities. Metal Finishing 2000 is designed to define and test the concept of offering operational flexibility for top environmental performing metal finishing facilities. Under the pilot, industry environmental performance leaders who meet the stakeholder-defined program criteria and pursue pollution prevention will receive operational flexibility. Early lessons learned from the pilots have provided SGP local groups with models for establishing stakeholder groups, identifying benefits for metal finishers, and compliance criteria.	**ONGOING.** Metal Finishing 2000 in Detroit, Michigan, is nearly complete with six companies implementing their individual pollution prevention projects. In Rhode Island, the Narragansett Bay Commission (NBC) has accepted one company into the program, and is providing flexibility from certain regulatory requirements. NBC is evaluating the applications of seven additional firms. NBC also has applied to EPA's Project XL. If accepted, they will be able to offer these metal finishers flexibility from Federal regulatory requirements.	Mark Mahoney EPA Region 1 617-918-1842 Mahoney.Mark@epa.gov (Rhode Island Project) Mindy Gampel OPR 202-260-2748 Gampel.Mindy@epa.gov (Michigan Project)
National Metal Finishing Resource Center (NMFRC)	The National Metal Finishing Resource Center (NMFRC) provides "one-stop" access for metal finishers and others to up-to-date information about technical and compliance-related issues that affect their operations. The goal of the Center is to give direct, "customer oriented" assistance to metal finishers and to help them reduce pollution, promote manufacturing efficiency, and achieve full compliance with all applicable environmental laws and regulations. The NMFRC was developed as a public/private partnership between EPA, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and the metal finishing industry.	**ONGOING.** The NMFRC became fully operational in October 1996 and is available to provide information on-line via the Internet on state and federal regulations, cost/benefit data on pollution prevention methods, technology updates, and opportunities for more in-depth technical assistance. In 1998, the NMFRC assumed a new role to assess the progress of facilities participating in the Strategic Goals Program and to provide technical assistance to participating firms. To access more information on NMFRC visit the Web site at www.nmfrc.org.	Scott Throwe OECA 202-564-7013 Throwe.Scott@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Metal Finishing Guidance Manual	The purpose of the Metal Finishing Guidance Manual is to serve as a plain language tool for shop floor managers to ensure continuing compliance with regulatory requirements. The manual includes comprehensive information on federal and state regulatory requirements, as well as information on technology options, pollution prevention approaches, and environmental management systems. This project is a public/private partnership, co-funded by EPA and the industry trade associations, and guided by the NACEPT Metal Finishing Workgroup.	**COMPLETED.** The Metal Finishing Guidance Manual is complete and can be ordered from NMFRC at www.nmfrc.org/gmanual.htm. Phase 2 is underway and includes annual updates, seminars on the use of the manual, and creation of a hypertext CD version for use with the NMFRC.	Bob Benson OPR 202-260-8668 Benson.Robert@epa.gov
Chromium Pollution Prevention Technology Demonstration	The Research and Technology Workgroup is developing innovative, low-cost technologies to improve the performance of the metal finishing industry and achieve cost-effective pollution prevention results. Multi-stage composite mesh pads and chemical fume suppressants are two new technologies being tested in volunteer metal finishing facilities in the Midwest.	**ONGOING.** The first demonstration phase is complete. The most promising technologies will now be tested and, if successful, verified for broad marketing and use. Based on the results from the demonstration project, EPA's Office of Air and Radiation is working to make proposed changes to the Chrome Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT).	David Ferguson ORD 513-569-7518 Ferguson.David@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
National Metal Finishing Environmental R&D Plan	The National R&D Plan provides guidance to EPA, academia, industry, and other federal researchers on environmental R&D gaps within the metal finishing industry. This project has provided a better understanding of the technology needs of the industry, and has served as a basis for tailoring public and private sectors' Research and Development (R&D) to meet those needs.	**UNDER IMPLEMENTATION.** The plan is being widely disseminated to shape the research agenda for the metal finishing industry. ORD developed a risk screening tool (Characterizing Risk at Metal Finishing Facilities) and is providing grant support for hexavalent chromium risk reduction and the metal finishing P2 verification pilot project. To view a copy of the R&D Plan, visit NMFRC's Web site at www.nmfrc.org/pdf/rdcsi/title.htm.	David Ferguson ORD 513-569-7518 Ferguson.David@epa.gov
POTW Training, Education, and Incentives Program	The two goals of this project include: 1) improving the capabilities of lower tier POTWs to manage their industrial users by reducing mass pollutant loadings without limiting industrial activity; and 2) providing the most effective POTWs with increased managerial flexibility to achieve higher environmental quality at lower cost. A multi-stakeholder project team evaluated selected POTWs with varying levels of performance in California, Indiana, and Virginia.	**COMPLETED.** The Metal Finishing Subcommittee endorsed the team's final report, which presents an analysis of factors affecting the success of industrial pretreatment programs. EPA's Office of Water is taking action to address the findings in the final report, including developing tools for POTWs that are available on the EPA Web site.	Jeff Lape OW 202-260-6057 Lape.Jeff@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
RCRA Metal Finishing F006 Wastewater Sludge Project	This project is addressing the RCRA Definition of Solid Waste within the metal finishing context. The goals of this project include: 1) to complete an objective study of the composition, quantities, and characteristics of metal finishing wastewater treatment sludges; 2) to reduce the generation of toxicity of metal finishing wastewater treatment sludges through pollution prevention measures; 3) to improve the recyclability of metals contained in the sludge in a cheaper, smarter fashion, while ensuring no transfer of hazards to other environmental media; and 4) to reduce the volume of sludges destined for land disposal.	**ONGOING.** Recent milestones for this group include a proposed RCRA rule change to extend (to 180 days) the accumulation requirements for F006 metal finishing waste to promote on-site metals recovery and recycling of waste. EPA is in the process of assessing public comments on the proposal. The first phase of the F006 Wastewater Sludge Project, which was a benchmarking analysis of F006 constituents using national and regional sampling data, has been completed. A workgroup is assessing the results of the benchmarking study to determine next steps and to improve the utilization goals of the Strategic Goals Program.	Kristina Meson OW 703-308-8488 Meson.Kristina@epa.gov
Environmentally Responsible Site Transition for Tier 3 Firms	The project team completed a series of case studies of representative Tier 3 facilities in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and California. The report identifies factors that lead certain metal finishers to become Tier 3 Firms, and offers possible transition strategies for these facilities. In 1998, EPA Region 1 and Rhode Island DEM completed a prototype guidance booklet to provide owners of Tier 3 firms with detailed explanations about the issues they face and local resources that are available to help them.	**ONGOING.** This prototype guidance booklet is currently being modified for use in Massachusetts and other states to take into account the varying state-to-state resources. Copies will be available on the Strategic Goals Program Web site in the near future at www.strategicgoals.org.	Scott Dosick OPR 202-260-9211 Dosick.Scott@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Approaching Zero Discharge Demonstration Project	The objective of this project is to promote the commercialization of metal finishing processes that operate at or near zero discharge of toxic pollutants. While it is desirable to seek less toxic alternatives to the substances used in metal finishing, in some cases performance-equivalent substitutes cannot be found for particular processes. In these cases, there are environmental benefits in demonstrating "cleaner" technologies that achieve waste reduction results by approaching zero discharge through improved operational techniques and/or in-process recycling technologies.	**ONGOING.** A detailed work plan has been drafted for demonstrations of up to four pollutant reduction technologies. The demonstrations will be designed to provide technology-specific information on environmental emissions, operation of the technologies, maintenance needs, production throughput, product quality, energy consumption, capital and operating costs, and occupational exposure. Funding has been secured for this project, and it is receiving broad stakeholder support.	Dave Ferguson ORD 513-569-7518 Ferguson.David@epa.gov
Tier 4 Facility Enforcement Project	The objective of this project is to develop a targeted enforcement program that identifies Tier 4 firms and takes appropriate action against them. Tier 4 firms are chronically out of compliance, don't actively seek ways to be in compliance, and generally escape enforcement attention because of their small size and transient nature.	**ONGOING.** A multi-stakeholder team developed a work plan for the project. In 1998, regional stakeholder teams developed pilot efforts in several areas to test new enforcement approaches for Tier 4 firms. In 1999, several local SGP groups began work on developing targeted enforcement strategies, and reviewing information sources to identify chronic non-compliers and "rouge" firms.	Scott Throwe OECA 202-564-7013 Throwe.Scott@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Environmental Technology Verification Project	This project is one of 12 pilots operating under the EPA's Environmental Technology Verification (ETC) program. The ETV Metal Finishing Pollution Prevention (ETV-MF) project's goal is to institutionalize a long-term verification process. Technology categories will initially be drawn from the National Metal Finishing Environmental R&D Plan and later solicited from the pilot's Stakeholder Group.	**ONGOING.**	Alva Daniels ORD 513-569-7693 Daniels.Alva@epa.gov
Access to Capital Project	The metal finishing sector is leading an effort to conduct an analysis of innovative ideas such as environmental insurance and technology verification to support loan decisions that can be of benefit across small business components of sectors. The subcommittee recommended to EPA that it develop an EPA/Small Business Association (SBA) sponsored pilot loan program to help small metal finishers fund facility improvements.	**UNDER IMPLEMENTATION.** The Office of Policy awarded a grant to EPA Region 9's Environmental Finance Center to facilitate meetings and perform analysis for a local multi-stakeholder group. Stakeholder planning meetings were held during the first two quarters of FY 99 to develop the pilot loan program for metal finishers in the Los Angeles area. Current plans anticipate a $2-4 million small business loan program that will be piloted in early fall 1999. Long-term plans call for replication of this model in other SGP areas and perhaps with other small business sectors.	Scott Dosick OPR 202-260-9211 Dosick.Scott@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Automobile Manufacturing			
Alternative Sector Regulatory System/ Community Technical Assistance and Involvement Team	This team addressed automobile manufacturing regulatory systems and community involvement. The project designed and tested community-based projects that strategically help local communities understand and participate in environmental quality and economic development issues in an interrelated and positive way. The team proposed core principles and a process for implementing an alternative to the regulatory system that impacts the automobile manufacturing industry. The team also explored the unique role and information needs of the community in creating such alternatives.	**COMPLETED.** The team developed an Automotive Assembly Plant Database, which includes environmental information about the vicinities around auto plants, information from EPA's electronic databases, community demographic information, plant economic information, and an on-line media literature search for each auto plant community. As a result of this project, Louisville, Kentucky, was identified as a potential site for a community-based project. After additional review of the project, Ford Motor Company decided not to proceed with the project.	Keith Mason OAR 202-260-1360 Mason.Keith@epa.gov
Life Cycle Management/ Supplier Partnership Project	The objective of this project was to develop principles and strategies for the application of life-cycle management in the automobile manufacturing sector as a means of further reducing environmental impacts in an economically efficient manner. The team's goal was to demonstrate the principles and strategies of life-cycle management in automotive manufacturing through manufacturer/supplier partnerships in a manner that would be applicable and beneficial to the whole sector.	**COMPLETED.** The project team developed a document entitled "Tools and Policies for Life Cycle Management," which is a comprehensive document on practices and policies domestically and internationally. This document can be used as a benchmark for beginning a broader discussion about policies that encourage life cycle management in other industry sectors.	Julie Lynch OPPTS 202-260-5334 Lynch.Judith@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Regulatory Initiative Project	This project addressed improvements to two existing regulations: 1) New Source Review of Air Construction/Modification Permits and 2) Clean Air Act Title V Operating Permits. The team initiated a project to evaluate alternatives to the current complex topcoat standard. The project focused on evaluating the utility of expressing the current topcoat standard in alternative forms in order to provide the public with more understandable information and give the auto manufacturers a standard more consistent with international regulations. The team focused on the viability of a mass/area standard and determined that EPA should explore the possibilities of using this type of standard in future rulemaking.	**COMPLETED.** The project resulted in a final consensus report: *Mass Per Unit Area Summary Report and Recommendations*.	Dave Salman OAQPS 919-541-0859 Salman.Dave@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Computers and Electronics Subcommittee			
Electronic Product Recovery and Recycling (EPR2) Roundtable	The EPR2 Roundtable brings together 23 interested stakeholders representing original equipment manufacturers; recyclers; reuse organizations; nongovernmental organizations; federal, state, and local government agencies; retailers; and academics to address issues raised as a result of the growing quantity of used computer and electronics equipment. The Roundtable projects are designed to help identify and prioritize ways to overcome market, economic, regulatory, administrative and institutional barriers to the effective management of electronic equipment throughout its life cycle.	**UNDER IMPLEMENTATION.** An EPR2 Conference has been held for the past two years as a forum for exchanging information and technologies for developing practical, innovative strategies for managing end-of-life electronic equipment.	John Alter OPPTS 202-260-4315 Alter.John@epa.gov
Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) Recycling	The subcommittee proposed a change to the RCRA rule that will reduce federal regulatory burdens and thus remove barriers to the recycling of CRTs. The rule change would allow CRT glass to be recycled into new glass by defining management practices for facilities that collect, process, or transport CRTs.	**UNDER IMPLEMENTATION.** EPA expects to propose a rule in April 2000 that will greatly streamline the requirements for managing CRTs while retaining appropriate controls to protect human health and the environment. The rule will also clarify that once the CRT glass is processed, such that it is usable as a raw material in CRT glass manufacturing, it is not subject to hazardous waste regulations.	Javiera Garcia OSWER 703-308-2628 Javiera.Garcia@epa.gov Charlotte Mooney OSWER 703-308-7025 Mooney.Charlotte@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Pilots and Analysis of Residential Collection Pilots for End-of-Life Electrical and Electronic Equipment	Local companies sponsored a series of pilot projects in New York, Massachusetts, and California to explore mechanisms to recover used residential computer and electronic equipment for reuse and recycling. A report targeted to recycling industries and communities analyzed these pilot projects and was published in December 1998. The report addressed the volume and nature of equipment being recovered and recycled; the nature, size, and distribution of recycling and de-manufacturing facilities in the United States today; projections for equipment turnover in the coming decade; and the market for key materials.	**COMPLETED.** The pilot programs were so successful in New York, Massachusetts, and California that their local sponsors have decided to permanently continue the programs.	Christine Beling EPA - Region 1 617-918-17923 Beling,Christine@epa.gov
Zero Wastewater Discharge Systems	The subcommittee studied the regulation of zero wastewater discharge systems. The goal of the work group was to determine whether the interpretation and application of the RCRA treatment, storage, and disposal facility (TSDF) permitting exemptions and exclusions by EPA and state permitting officials present a barrier to the use of "cleaner, cheaper, and smarter" options for pollution prevention and recycling.	**BEING EVALUATED.** EPA program and regional offices and states are continuing to explore and assess alternative approaches toward addressing regulatory issues surrounding zero wastewater discharge systems. EPA has agreed to play a leadership role in working toward a solution to this issue that encourages the use of such state-of-the-art water conservation/reuse technologies and related pollution prevention practices in ways that are protective of human health and the environment. OSW/OW plan to include this issue in their FY 2000 budget planning process.	Michael Ebner OW 202-260-5397 Ebner.Michael@epa.gov Charlotte Mooney OSWER 703-308-7025 Mooney.Charlotte@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Enhanced Public Access: Solving the Obscure Policy Problem	The subcommittee found that a process is needed to ensure that EPA regulatory interpretations or determinations affecting the environmental management practices of the regulated community are compiled and easily accessible to the public, as appropriate. EPA is implementing a system to provide easy public access to regulatory interpretations on the Internet.	**UNDER IMPLEMENTATION.** The Agency-wide Task Force has now identified about 7000 documents approximately half of which are in paper version only. The Agency is in the process of completing the development of metadata on all of these documents and converting the paper documents to electronic format. An extensive quality assurance effort will then be required to review the metadata and converted documents for accuracy. This project will be moved to the new Information Office, and the next phase, the outreach effort, will be developed in coordination with that new office.	Anne Lassiter OECA 202-564-2290 Lassiter.Anne@epa.gov
Basic On-Line Disaster and Emergency Response (BOLDER)	The subcommittee worked with fire departments and computer and electronics facilities in Phoenix and Chandler, Arizona; Maricopa County; and other local communities to develop computer software that consolidates multiple emergency response plans into one document. The BOLDER software is a planning tool that consolidates over 500 pages of federal, state and local Agency response plans into one 30-page plan that is easy to access, understand, and implement. Bolder gives fire departments and other emergency response agencies instant electronic access to the emergency plans of computers and electronics manufacturing facilities.	**BEING EVALUATED.** The BOLDER planning tool was completed in 1998 and is currently available in the Phoenix area. The workgroup has beta tested BOLDER with the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office in Corpus Christi, Texas, and will explore electronic submission of the One Plan requirements. Continuing work with the National Response Team is needed to realize the full potential of BOLDER. For more information on BOLDER, visit the Web site at www.chemicalspill.org.	Jim Staves EPA - Region 6 214-665-6485 Staves.James@epa.gov Chris Tirpak OPPTS 202-260-7538 Tirpak.Chris@epa.gov Warren Beer EPA - Region 9 415-744-1803 415-324-2446 Beer.Warren@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Consolidated Uniform Report for the Environment (CURE)	The Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (TNRCC) developed the CURE process for improving the reporting requirements of the computers and electronics industry in Texas. CURE is being designed to provide easier access to environmental data for primary users, including reporting companies and their workers, regulating and responsible agencies at all levels of government, NGOs and local organizations, and the general public	**BEING EVALUATED.** Stakeholders have identified key data elements to be included in a single reporting form, and they have developed a demonstration-scale prototype of the CURE system. Pilot tests have been conducted to test the use of the CURE prototype, including submission of and access to CURE data. The CURE has caught the interest of eight other states who in March proposed to the EPA a cross-state initiative. This initiative was also discussed in May 1999 at an EPA-ECOS meeting in Washington, DC, and in June 1999 at an ECOS meeting in Minneapolis. The CURE report was released in March 1999, and is located on the TNRCC Web Site at www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/oprd/cure/index.html.	Chris Tirpak OPPTS 202-260-7538 Tirpak.Chris@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements (3R) Inventory	The Reporting and Recordkeeping Requirements (3R) Inventory was completed in 1997. Over 1,000 environmental regulations were used to create a consolidated database of environmental reporting and recordkeeping requirements. With assistance from the Institute for Interconnecting and Packaging Electronics Circuits, EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance (OECA) web-enabled the 3R inventory as an effort of its Printed Wiring Board Resource Center (PWBRC). The PWBRC is one of OECA's Compliance Assistance Centers, which provide one-stop environmental information shopping service over the Internet.	**COMPLETED.** TNRCC in Texas and the Computers and Electronics Subcommittee built a sector specific database listing each applicable Federal and State rule or regulation that requires recordkeeping or reporting. The database is available at www.pwbrc.org. A single form was developed for use in Texas to replace 13 separate environmental reports being filed.	Chris Tirpak OPPTS 202-260-7538 Tirpak.Chris@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Support for Worker Health	The Computers and Electronics Sector's vision for the future includes integrating environmental, health, and safety programs into product design and production processes. An integrated environmental health, and safety program would ensure that beneficial changes in one program area (such as the environment) are not to the detriment of other areas (such as safety or health).	**UNDER IMPLEMENTATION.** An interagency planning group, working under the direction of the ONE (OSHA, NIOSH, EPA) Committee held a workshop on June 17-18, 1999, in Washington, DC, to discuss "Common Sense Approaches to Protecting Workers and the Environment." The goal of the workshop was to improve and increase the coordination among the three agencies (OSHA, NIOSH, and EPA) on occupational and environmental issues. The workshop was very successful, and over 200 people attended. The results of the meeting will be published on EPA's Web site at *www.epa.gov/P2/workshop.htm*. Future endeavors will be determined after the results have been compiled and the senior management of the three Agencies has been briefed.	Matthew Gillen OPPTS 202-260-1701 Gillen.Matthew@epa.gov John Bowser OPPTS 202-260-1771 Bowser.John@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Performance Track Program	The subcommittee focused on developing a performance track program that offers companies or facilities regulatory flexibility or other incentives to encourage them to improve their environmental, health, and safety performance.	**UNDER IMPLEMENTATION.** The Office of Policy and Reinvention is convening an internal EPA workgroup to carry out the development of a "performance track." In its Innovations Task Force Report, *Aiming for Excellence*, EPA has committed to develop a performance track to motivate and reward top environmental performance. The workgroup will help develop an approach for EPA's performance track strategy. In doing so, the workgroup will be involved in a number of stakeholder discussions and will take those discussions into account when formulating options.	David B Jones EPA - Region 9 415-744-2266 Jones.DavidB@epa.gov Debbie Boger OPR 202-260-1202 Boger.Debbie@epa.gov Chuck Kent OPR 202-260-2462 Kent.Chuck@epa.gov

Project	Description	Status	Contact
Constructive Engagement	The subcommittee supported the idea of constructive engagement between industry, workers, communities, and government in order to achieve the goals of the facility-based alternative system. Constructive engagement is the development and continuous improvement of a cooperative partnership among a facility's management, workers, communities, and government to plan, monitor, and evaluate its environmental, health, and safety activities.	**COMPLETED.** The Constructive Engagement Resource Guide: Practical Advice for Dialogue Among Facilities, Workers, Communities and Regulators was published in June 1999. It provides useful information to assist potential collaborators in determining whether or not to pursue constructive engagement and how to best approach constructive engagement processes. The guide is available on EPA's Stakeholder Involvement Web site at www.epa.gov/stakeholders/pdf/resolve2.pdf The document (EPA 745-B-99-008) can also be ordered free of charge from NSCEP either online at http://www.epa.gov/ncepihom/ or at 1-800-490-9198.	John Bowser OPPTS 202-260-1771 Bowser.John@epa.gov Judy Kendall OPPTS 202-260-1802 Kendall.Judith@epa.gov
Sulfuric Acid Recycling	Sulfuric acid recycling by semiconductor manufacturers is inhibited by perceived RCRA regulatory barriers. The subcommittee launched a project to find ways to eliminate perceived RCRA barriers to sulfuric acid recycling. EPA staff discovered that there may be viable options for recycling the acid under current RCRA regulations, making regulatory or policy changes unnecessary. However, they found that the circumstances under which sulfuric acid from semiconductor manufacturers can be recycled without being a RCRA hazardous waste need to be clarified.	**BEING EVALUATED.** EPA's Office of Solid Waste is the lead on this project.	David B Jones EPA - Region 9 415-744-2266 Jones.DavidB@epa.gov

Acronyms

3R	Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements
BOLDER	Basic On-line Disaster and Emergency Response
CAC	Community Advisory Committee
CLEAN	Compliance Leadership through Enforcement, Auditing, and Negotiation
CRT	Cathode Ray Tube (CRT)
CURE	Consolidated Uniform Report for the Environment
DEM	Department of Environmental Management
ECOS	Environmental Council of the States
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPR2	Electronic Product Recovery and Recycling (EPR2)
ETV	Environmental Technology Verification (Project)
LDAR	Leak Detection and Repair (requirements)
MACT	Maximum Achievable Control Technology
NACEPT	National Advisory Committee on Environmental Policy and Technology
NBC	Narragansett Bay Commission
NGOs	Non-Government Organizations
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
NMFRC	National Metal Finishing Resource Center
NSCEP	National Service Center for Environmental Publications
OAQPS	Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards
OAR	Office of Air and Radiation
OECA	Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
ONE	OSHA, NIOSH, EPA (Committee)
OPPTS	Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxic Substances
OPR	Office of Policy and Reinvention
ORD	Office of Research and Development
OSW	Office of Solid Waste
OSWER	Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response
OW	Office of Water
P2	Pollution Prevention
POTWs	Publicly Owned Treatment Works
PrintSTEP	Printers' Simplified Total Environmental Partnership
PWBRC	Printed Wiring Board Resource Center
R&D	Research and Development
RAIRS	Refinery Air Information Reporting System (RAIRS) Project
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RIITE	Regulatory Information Inventory Team Evaluation (Program)
SBA	Small Business Association
SEPs	Supplemental Environmental Projects
SGP	Strategic Goals Program
TNRCC	Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission
TSDF	Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facility
VOC	Volatile Organic Compounds